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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
B. Kupferschmid et al. ) Examiner: J. Woo  
Serial No.: 10/055,795 ) Art Unit: 3731  
Filed: January 22, 2002 )

For: SURGICAL, TUBULAR-SHAFTED INSTRUMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: May 12, 2004.

Signature: Carol Prentice  
Carol Prentice

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on April 28, 2004.

Amendments to the specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.